



**ALLEGANY COUNTY
2001 AGRICULTURAL PROFILE**

Allegany County lies in the western portion of Maryland. Its 426 square miles (272,460 acres) is mountainous and picturesque with elevations ranging from less than 600 to nearly 3,000 feet. Farms dot its mountains and narrow valleys. The ruggedness of the terrain dictates a pastoral agriculture and livestock production, principally beef cattle, is the major farm enterprise. The county is quite variable in temperature, rainfall and snow cover among areas within the county and from year to year within areas. Soil type and capability are also variable.

Surface mining of coal and manufacturing are prominent industries but the latter is declining. Conversion of marginal wood and brush lands to agriculture directly by farmers and indirectly through the strip mining of coal is increasing both the actual agricultural acreage and the potential agricultural acreage of the county. This and other factors place the county in a favorable position for expanding livestock production, and the area awaits only economic incentive to do so.

Non-agriculturally, Allegany County's greatest resource is its natural beauty and historical association. The North Branch of the Potomac river forms its southern and eastern boundaries with neighboring West Virginia and the famous Mason-Dixon line its northern boundary with Pennsylvania. On the west, the county is bounded by Garrett, Maryland's western most county and formerly a part of Allegany County. The population of Allegany County was 74,930 in 2000.

ALLEGANY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Crop	Year	Unit	Acreage Harvested	Average Yield	Total Production
Corn for Grain	1999	Bu.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		300	103.3	31,000
Corn for Silage	1999	Tons.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*
Soybeans	1999	Bu.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*
Wheat	1999	Bu.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*
Hay	1999	Tons.	7,600	0.9	7,000
	2000		9,500	2.5	23,500
	2001				
Barley	1999	Bu.	*	*	*
	2000		*	*	*
	2001		*	*	*

Crop Production Rank among MD. Counties, 2001				Livestock Inventories Rank among MD. Counties, 1997 ¹	
Corn	3	Oats	3	Cattle	13
Wheat	3	Barley	3	Hogs	20
Hay	8	Soybeans	3	Sheep	18
				Milk Production	13 ⁵

ALLEGANY AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

<i>Farm Numbers & Size</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Number of Farms	240	219	239
Average Size (acres)	204	173	175
Land in Farms (acres)	48,941	37,802	41,928

<i>Livestock (Number on Farms)</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
Cattle Inventory Jan. 1	5,158	5,147	5,341
Hog Inventory Dec. 1	462	160	153
Sheep Inventory Jan. 1	338	462	241

<i>Average Number of Milk Cows</i>	1998	1999	2000
	500	500	400

<i>Milk Production - 1,000 lbs.</i>	1998	1999	2000
	9,000	9,000	7,000

<i>Value of Sales</i> ¹	1987	1992	1997
	<i>----- Thousand Dollars -----</i>		
All Products	3,294	3,431	3,322
Crops	1,298	1,329	1,150
Livestock, Poultry and Poultry Products	1,996	2,102	2,172

¹ Source: Census of Agriculture, NASS.
² Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
³ Unranked - Data not published.
⁴ Revised.
⁵ 2001
* Acreage too small to publish.

MONTHLY WEATHER DATA - 2000

MONTH	AVERAGE TEMP. (F)	NORMAL 1961-1990	TOTAL RAINFALL (INCHES)	NORMAL 1961-1990
January	30.5	30.3	1.52	2.38
February	39.4	33.4	3.09	2.29
March	47.6	43.2	2.71	3.08
April	53.7	53.6	3.48	3.19
May	65.5	63.1	3.96	3.66
June	72.7	71.0	2.65	3.34
July	72.0	75.1	3.26	3.37
August	71.5	73.9	5.41	3.30
September	65.2	66.7	6.27	3.08
October	57.7	54.8	.79	2.77
November	40.3	44.6	2.16	2.76
December	25.9	34.6	1.91	2.61
Annual	53.5	53.7	37.21	35.83

Number frost free days for 2000	202
Normal frost free days 1961-1990	178
Highest temperature 06-11-00	93
Lowest temperature 01-22-00	5

MD Agricultural Statistics Service 50 Harry S Truman Parkway Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Phone: (410) 841-5740 Fax #: (410) 841-5755 E-Mail: nass-md@nass.usda.gov Home Page: http://www.usda.gov/nass/	Allegany County Extension Service 112 Baltimore Street Suite 204 Cumberland, Maryland 21502 Phone: (301) 724-3320 Fax #: (301) 722-4015
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*Compiled by the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service
and the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service.*